Damage due to Natural Calamities

1524. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of damage caused to country due to floods/ cyclone and droughts during the last three year;

(b) whether Government have evolved any permanent schemes or methods to protect the country from the above mentioned natural calamities;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) As per reports received from the States, details of human lives lost, animals lost, houses damaged and cropped area damaged during 1996-97 to 1998-99 due to hailstorm, landslides, heavy rains/ floods, cyclone and drought is indicated below:—

Year	Human Live lost	Animals lost	Houses damaged (in lakhs)	Cropped area damaged (lakh ha.)
1996-97	3833	208827	24.17	57.19
1997-98	B 2023	32177	9.49	41.52
1998-99	B 5014	109091	15.63	77.10

(b) to (d) A number of schemes/programmes like Drought Prone Areas Programme, Desert Development Programme, National Watershed Development Project for rainfed areas. Employment Generation Programmes, Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme, Indira Awas Yojana, Flood Control Scheme, Soil Conservation in the Catchments of River Valley Projects and Flood Prone Rivers which have component of disaster mitigation are implemented by the Central Ministries/Departments and State Governments towards long-term measures for rehabilitation of the affected sectors.

Co-operation in Agricultural sector

1525. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is true that India and Mongolia have signed a five year plan for co-operation in Agricultural sector; and

(b) if so, the details of the agreement and benefits coming out of it may be furnished?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) An Agreement for cooperation in the field of agriculture between the Government of India and the Government of Mongolia was signed on 16th September, 1996. The Agreement provides for Scientific Technical and Economic cooperation in various areas of agriculture. The Agreement also provides for Work Plans to be drawn up by mutual agreement containing specific proposals/activities to be taken up for implementation under the Agreement. A Work Plan for cooperation in the field of agriculture between the Government of India and the Government of Mongolia was signed on 28th January, 2000 for the period 2000—2005. The Work Plan contains proposals for exchange of seed samples; exchange of scientific and technical information; training of Mongolian Specialists in India and study visits of Indian Specialists to Mongolia in various fields of agriculture; setting up direct contacts between agricultural research institutions of the two countries, etc.

Under the Work Plan India would be able to obtain seed samples for cold resistant and early maturing wheat, buck — wheat, barley, cold desert grasses, vegetables & fruits, potato varieties, send Indian Specialists to Mongolia to study cultivation of cold resistant and early maturing wheat; cultivation of soyabean and production of vegetable oils, sheep milk processing; exchange scientific and technical information in the field of agriculture, etc.

Global Co-operation in Agriculture

1526. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that in the field of agriculture global co-operation is not sufficient considering our dependence on Agriculture to a great extent;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) what major steps Government have taken or propose to take towards greater international co-operation and understanding with other countries in this regard; and